

6 messages, or a fourth address block[(39)], comprising
7 references relating to services to be rendered to a
8 user. --.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is made to conform the claims in the application to that amended in the International Preliminary Examination Report, make minor typographical and grammatical errors, and to delete multiple dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

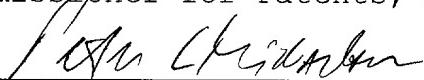
Peter L. Michaelson
Peter L. MICHAELSON, Attorney
Reg. No. 30,090
Customer No. 007265
(732) 530-6671

MICHAELSON & WALLACE
Counselors at Law
Parkway 109 Office Center
328 Newman Springs Road
P.O. Box 8489
Red Bank, New Jersey 07701

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Name of person making certification

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CLAIMS

1 1. Method for exchanging telecommunication traffic
2 between users in a telecommunications system,
3 comprising a satellite communication network, such as
4 the Inmarsat system, built up from several
5 telecommunication satellites which are operatively
6 coupled, by way of radio transmission links, to one or
7 more earth stations, which earth stations are
8 operatively connected, by way of a service center, to
9 an earth communication network built up from fixed
10 and/or mobile telecommunication networks, characterized
11 in that messages having an address code short to such a
12 degree that no complete network address can be
13 included, and received in the service center from users
14 by way of the satellite communication network, are
15 stored in electronic mailboxes, said messages being
16 distributed among the mailboxes on the basis of an
17 address code or part thereof, by way of at least one
18 lookup table and the address code referring to a
19 reference included in the lookup table.

1 2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that
2 messages received from a group of users are stored in a
3 common mailbox.

1 3. Method according to claim 2, characterized in that
2 messages from users associated with a telecommunication
3 operator are stored in a common mailbox.

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1 4. Method according to claim 3, characterized in
2 that, in a common mailbox, messages are stored
3 distributed over separate mailboxes.

1 5. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that
2 a mailbox is selected on the basis of said address code
3 included in a message received and an identification
4 code associated with the user in question.

1 6. Method according to claim 5, characterized in that
2 the lookup table comprises at least a first and a
3 second address block, the one address block referring
4 to a user-specific mailbox and the other address block
5 referring to a mailbox common to a group of users, a
6 mailbox in question being selected from the first or
7 second address block on the basis of the address code
8 received.

1 7. Method according to claim 6, characterized in that
2 the lookup table comprises a third address block in
3 which references are included relating to a group of
4 most recently transmitted messages.

1 8. Method according to claim 7, characterized in that
2 the lookup table comprises a fourth address block in
3 which references are included relating to services to
4 be rendered to a user, a service in question being
5 selected on the basis of the address code received.

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1 9. Method according to claim 8, characterized in that
2 the lookup table comprises consecutively numbered
3 references, the first address block referring to the
4 first references having the lowest sequence numbers,
5 the second address block referring to the next 32
6 references, the third address block referring to the
7 still following 32 references, and the fourth address
8 block referring to the 32 references having the highest
9 sequence numbers.

1 10. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that
2 the messages stored in a mailbox may be transmitted to
3 an authorized user on demand.

1 11. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that
2 the messages stored in a mailbox are transmitted
3 automatically to an authorized user, in clusters of
4 messages, if so required.

1 12. Method according to claim 1, characterized by a
2 user's account associated with an electronic mailbox,
3 for crediting thereto the costs involved in receiving,
4 storing and transmitting messages.

1 13. Device for exchanging, in a telecommunications
2 system, telecommunication traffic between users, which
3 telecommunications system comprises a satellite
4 communication network, such as the Inmarsat system,
5 built up from several telecommunication satellites
6 which are operatively coupled, by way of radio

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7 transmission links, to one or more earth stations,
8 which earth stations are operatively connected, by way
9 of a service center, to an earth communication network
10 built up from fixed and/or mobile telecommunication
11 networks, characterized by control means for storing in
12 electronic mailboxes messages, having an address code
13 being short to such an extent that no complete network
14 address can be included and received in the service
15 center from users by way of the satellite communication
16 network, the control means distributing said messages
17 among the mailboxes on the basis of an address code or
18 part thereof, by way of a lookup table and the address
19 code referring to a reference included in the lookup
20 table.

1 14. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for storing, in a
3 common mailbox, messages received from a group of
4 users.

1 15. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for selecting a
3 mailbox on the basis of said address code included in a
4 message received and an identification code associated
5 with a user in question, the control means comprising
6 an identification-code-related lookup table provided
7 with references to mailboxes for selecting said
8 reference or mailbox, as the case may be, on the basis
9 of said address code and identification code received.

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1 16. Device according to claim 15, characterized in
2 that the lookup table comprises at least a first and a
3 second address block, the one address block referring
4 to a user-specific mailbox and the other address block
5 referring to a mailbox common to a group of users, the
6 control means being arranged for selecting, from the
7 first or second address block on the basis of an
8 address code received, an individual or common mailbox
9 in question for storing a message received therein.

1 17. Device according to claim 16, characterized in
2 that the lookup table comprises a third address block,
3 in which references are included which relate to a
4 group of most recently transmitted messages, the
5 control means being arranged for selecting a message on
6 the basis of an address code received.

1 18. Device according to claim 17, characterized in
2 that the lookup table comprises a fourth address block,
3 in which references are included which relate to
4 services to be rendered to a user, the control means
5 being arranged for selecting a service in question on
6 the basis of an address code received.

1 19. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for, if so
3 requested, transmitting to an authorized user messages
4 stored in a mailbox.

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1 20. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for automatically
3 transmitting, to an authorized user, messages stored in
4 a mailbox.

1 21. Device according to claim 19, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for erasing stored
3 messages after the transmission thereof from the
4 mailbox.

1 22. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the mailboxes and the control means are mounted in
3 the service center.

1 23. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for storing, by way
3 of a transmission link, messages received in remotely
4 located mailboxes.

1 24. Device according to claim 13, characterized in
2 that the control means are arranged for tariffing
3 services rendered to a user.

1 25. Telecommunication unit, comprising user interface
2 means and transmission means for exchanging
3 telecommunication traffic between users in a
4 telecommunications system, comprising a satellite
5 communication network, such as the Inmarsat system,
6 built up from several telecommunication satellites
7 which are operatively coupled, by way of radio

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8 transmission links, to one or more earth stations,
9 which earth stations are operatively connected, by way
10 of a service center, to an earth communication network
11 built up from fixed and/or mobile telecommunication
12 networks, a message transmitted by the transmission
13 means having an address code being short to such an
14 extent that no complete network address can be
15 included, and the messages received in the service
16 center from users by way of the satellite communication
17 network being stored in electronic mailboxes, the
18 transmission means being arranged for distributing said
19 messages among the mailboxes on the basis of an address
20 code or part thereof by way of a lookup table and the
21 address code referring to a reference included in the
22 lookup table.

1 26. Telecommunication unit according to claim 25,
2 characterized in that the transmission means are
3 arranged for transmitting an address code selected from
4 a first or second address block, comprising address
5 codes which refer to a user-specific electronic mailbox
6 or a common electronic mailbox for storing therein a
7 message transmitted by the transmission means.

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1 27. Telecommunication unit according to claim 26,
2 characterized in that the transmission means are
3 arranged for transmitting an address code selected from
4 a third address block, comprising references relating
5 to a group of most recently transmitted messages, or a
6 fourth address block, comprising references relating to
7 services to be rendered to a user.

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